



THE ADJUTANT

JANUARY 2015



From your Editor

Hello,

Thank you to those who have sent me articles for this **my** last edition of the Adjutant. It is a smaller version and one that has taken a long time to gather together. Partly because of the time of year (it clashing with Christmas and the New Year) but also because there is less to report out of the season. Thank you for your patience.

My final Thank you goes to Alan Balding for this cover picture. Taken during the Lord Mayors show I feel it represents everything that the Napoleonic Association is about.

I wish you all a very happy 2015.

Thanks

Tracey Paylor

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The Chairman's Report



We have now almost reached the end of 2014 and the year seems to have gone so quickly. I certainly have enjoyed the events and the highlight for me was the Lord Mayor's Parade in London. I watched the Parade later on the BBC and Dan Snow saying that we were his favourite part of the Parade was testament to the work we all put into making all our events the best we can. That is high praise indeed from a prominent television historian.

The Association's preparations for Waterloo 200 carry on unabated. The Registrations Site for re-enactors closed on 30 November 2014 and by now the British and Prussians amongst you should be receiving the confirmation of your acceptance. The French confirmations may take a little longer as those in the French Army responsible for the process have started somewhat later than those for the British and Prussians. Planning for the Allied and Prussian camp is well advanced and the Senior Officers of the British Army have been fully briefed. Planning for the French Camp has taken a little longer to start but we are in contact with French Camp Logistics organisation to protect the interest of our members. I will give you all a full update in my Chairman's Report to the AGM at the end of January.

There are a number of vacancies on the Association's Executive Committee. If you feel you can spare the time to help us organise our fantastic Association then please have yourself nominated for a Committee post before the AGM. Similarly if you feel that something should be discussed at the AGM then please submit an appropriate motion for discussion.

One vacancy we have is for an Editor of the "Adjutant". Tracey Paylor has indicated that she is standing down from that position after the publication of this edition of the "Adjutant". Tracey has done an excellent job over the last two years and on your behalf I would like to thank her for all the work she has put into of editing and producing the "Adjutant". So if you would like the challenge of editing the "Adjutant" then please let one of the Executive Committee know.

So it just remains for me to wish you, on half of the Executive Committee, a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – and what a new year it looks like being!

Martyn Monks



The Supreme Allied Commander's Report

Hi one and All

Not much to say in this festive edition.

In lieu of Parish Notes, I will give you an update of Army Admin...and of course congratulate the new

“Captain and Mrs Robertson” on their marriage in November.

Mike Haynes as British Commander will also assume as my 2nd in Command.

Rick Peacock steps aside from the Adjutant Generals Department to join Robert Evans as my ADC. All Staff Officers from the Adjutant Generals Dept primarily deal with

British Army matters. All Staff Officers of the Quarter Masters Dept will deal with Anglo-Allied matters.

Well there you go another season gone and some good memories. Just take a moment to reflect on the Army that we have built together and how we will take it forward to the biggest Bi-Centennial there is.

Without your good nature, comradeship and loyalty there would be none of this would be possible. We all have different dreams and goals but over the years we have become a force that the troops of the Empire not only can but do envy. You are comrades to be proud of.

So the toast is

“ Happy New Year and on to Waterloo!”

Cheers,
Wagg



The British Commander's Report

Merry Christmas,

The British Army is looking in great shape as we come to the end of 2014 and we all are in for a special year in 2015 when we enjoy the privilege of being part of Waterloo 2015.

Not since 1815 will there have been such a fielding of British Napoleonic troops and that includes all of our forces who wore the GR cipher of George the Third. Brunswicks, Hanoverians, Canadian Fencibles and Volunteers, Kings German Legion and our own Forces of the Crown, Horse, Foot and Cannon. It is a remarkable achievement to gather so many enthusiasts and historians together and to be able to not only field them as one complete Army, but also to find a home and shelter for them at the Chateau of Hougoumont on the Field of Waterloo.

We are not there yet but hundreds of thousands of hours have been poured into this event by all of you who proudly wear that black cockade. Whether it is in researching drill, or booking that village hall to train in, or cooking drop scones over an open fire, sewing for hour after hour (usually with a deadline of the morning before a muster) new fatigue caps, sourcing and organising events, talking to the local firearms officer, painting gun carriages in the dead of winter, driving for mile after mile on a Friday rush hour, putting a tent up as the rain comes down, sitting in coaches for over 24 hours and wondering about thrombosis, standing in line as the smoke clears and the Eagles advance, looking at the food for fifty people knowing it needs to be turned into lunch for fifty people, swearing at that bloody flint, hoping that the singing will stop and the kids will sleep, writing reports for a membership that wants to hear, filling in the same membership form you did last year, trying to remember that right shoulders forward means wheel left, talking to the Belgian Government, organising the shape of the army from all the units that are in it, answering thousands of emails, travelling to Belgium to stand in wet fields and talk about portaloos, encouraging thousands of strangers to trust, understand and cooperate, bringing all of you together.

That is what we are doing and it is working. The Army Command is made up of remarkable people it is a pleasure and honour to work with. The Quartermasters Department is forging ahead with a logistical plan that is superb in detail, The Adjutants Office has a complete understanding of everyone and where they are. Coupled with all of this our own Napoleonic Association Committee has created an events calendar that will take us up to and beyond Waterloo 200 in glory!

Now is a very good time to be a Napoleonic Re enactor, now is a very good time to be a member of the Napoleonic Association.

It is an honour and a privilege to be working with you all.

A very Merry Christmas

Major General Michael Haynes AGC

British Army Commander



The French Commander's Report

Napoleonic books; artefacts from eBay; items of kit; accoutrements; materials, what's Santa going to be delivering for you? We might not know what's being delivered for Christmas, yet we do know that the NA delivered up an exciting season which culminated in a good end of season event, with many within the NA taking part in The Lord Mayor's Show. The Brigade was well represented with participants from many of the French units being present. It was a shame that our cavalry and artillery units were unable to attend yet they were there with us in spirit. Sean van Hese from 85e, took part whilst on a short visit to the UK, and he happily led the singing throughout the march. Our own "English" Napoleon, John Horwood, once again managed to whip up the crowd, with an almost equal number of cheers and boos occurring as we marched along. Thanks to everyone within the Brigade who helped make the event such a success.



Richard Delingpole has set us all a tongue in cheek challenge to gain "elite" status alongside the 69e Voltigeurs. Although tongue in cheek, the gauntlet has been thrown down and picked up and it will be good watching units compete for that vaunted status. It will involve enhancing the look of kit, drill, living history, public interaction, and battlefield performance. Areas in which we can all make small improvements. Talking of challenges, well done to Caporal Stewart Bell for recording the quickest time for firing 3 rounds, in the new annual 45e competition. Next year we want to open it up to all within

the Brigade. Ensuring that troops can load properly, quickly and safely, especially when under pressure, will enhance our overall fire power and prowess on the battlefield. Each year we will have an award to the quickest firer within the Brigade.

2015 is already looking to be a year full of exciting events in the UK

and abroad. I see no reason why the events should not all exceed our expectations. People are looking forward to the Fort Amherst filming with Sean Bean, in January and it was good seeing photographs of Beau and the cavalry from their recent participation in the same series of filming earlier in December.

Here's hoping you all have a great festive period and let's work hard together in making 2015 a year to remember.

Salut et Fraternite
Captain Duncan
Miles
45e



Cavalry- Dark days or new dawn?

I have never felt particularly happy about being near horses. Dogs and cats, even quite big ones I can manage, horses on the other hand are not only much bigger and stronger than I am they also have brains and personalities. I have steered clear of them, except when called upon to help at tournaments but there is no way I am ever going to get on top of one! Horses were however a vital component on every battlefield for centuries. Imagine Hastings or Waterloo without cavalry charges and most major (English) Civil War battles seem to begin or end with the cavalry tearing off in one direction or another. Agincourt or Crecy without cavalry would be like sausages without mustard or crumpets without butter.

It is obvious that as re-enactors we cannot recreate battles on the scale of the past but we can recreate just a little bit of one and that should include cavalry. What is also becoming obvious is that there are far fewer horses at re-enactments and on occasion none at all. At the recent Annual General Meeting of NARes (National Association of Re-enactment Societies) this issue was raised by John Norris the director with the Equestrian Portfolio.

The problems as he outlined them were numerous but not insuperable but collectively they had significantly reduced the numbers of horses available for hire by re-enactors. Stables have been caught between rapidly rising prices for food and fuel and a significant reduction in investment and participation from a public feeling the post 2008 'squeeze'. The first and most obvious problem is the cost of livery that is providing for the needs of the animal. Food prices have risen as have the costs of bedding, and full livery for a month between £500 and £1000, horses need to be re-shod every 6-8 weeks at an average cost of £80, even a small bale of Hay costs between £4-7. Prices keep on rising and unlike a vehicle that can be stored in a garage the horse continues to need feeding, exercising etc., irrespective of whether there is a paying customer available. Getting horses to events usually requires the hiring of specialist vehicles and the cost of expensive diesel fuel to get them there.

The reduction in the numbers of stables willing to hire horses has been compounded by some increasingly unwilling to hire them to re-enactors.

Hiring such a valuable item requires the stable to have confidence in the customer to be able to manage and care for the animal properly. To build up the confidence of the stable requires a regular commitment from the re-enactor so that the stable owner has the confidence to risk what is a valuable investment.

For the organisers of an event the increasing costs associated with hiring



horses and their riders has led to fewer and fewer seeing them as an asset. Horses are expensive and unless managed with a high degree of professionalism can be a liability. I am sure I am not the only re-enactor who has on occasion been convinced that neither horse nor rider were prepared for the choreographed (or otherwise) noise and confusion of battle.

There are fewer horses available, fewer stables willing to hire them and fewer organisers willing to pay for them. This is the much quoted ‘perfect storm’

a concatenation of circumstances that could see the disappearance of horses from re-enactments except for the ‘professional’ jousters, skill at arms (tent-peggers) etc.

The use of owner riders by many groups has meant that a small number of horses can be seen at some events. But there are pros and cons with using owner riders. On the plus side they own their own horses and normally have transport, so will come to an event for nothing or for a small allowance for diesel. They will “know” the horse and can be relied upon to put on a good



and safe show, and as they ride often are skilled riders. On the other hand they have other interests, such as dressage, show jumping, eventing and polo and so may not be available for re-enactment when required. In addition their horses are valuable, and so the riders may not wish to do precisely what the organisers of an event require. They do still of course need to train together and this is a major cost assuming that a suitable training venue can be found. It is not the final solution but is a part thereof.

How is the situation to be ameliorated if not reversed?

In the short term that is not realistic. Until such time as funding from sponsors is available and contractors have built up their herds with good number of an

acceptable standard we will continue with a stopgap situation, doing the best with what we can get. The long term will be better as there is a demand for re-enactment spectacle and equestrian and cavalry skill; once money begins to flow and the re-enactors themselves have more to spend the market will improve. That may be a good few years away.

NAReS is looking into the immediate problem with emphasis on safety and training. We cannot afford a major equestrian incident and the best way to avail that is to train, if possible on horses that one is likely to ride at an event. Most cavalry re-enactor units do undertake some training events through the winter months, but often the venues have limited facilities (most venues do not want cavalry churning up the muddy grass through the winter, nor do many have large enough all weather surfaces). Most of the current practice sessions focus on drill riding, and some weapons training, but this does not adequately simulate battle conditions. What is needed is more training for cavalry re-enactors alongside re-enactors using guns and artillery pieces. It's worth noting that even the few specialist horse hirers who are still in business, struggle to get their horses trained for these conditions, let alone the owner riders.



The Napoleonic Association

gives notice of a

Duchess of Richmond's Ball

The First of the Season

to be held at the Celebrated at the

Athenaeum Assembly Rooms

Bury St Edmunds

in the County of Suffolk

on Saturday January 31st 2015



www.napoleonicassociation.org

God Save The King

It is now only a few weeks until the NA Duchess of Richmond's Ball, and the tickets are selling fast.

Tickets cost 35 for members and 45 for non-members.

Please send your booking to me as soon as possible in order to guarantee your place at what will be the first Duchess of Richmond's Ball of 2015, and the cheapest in cost but not in quality.

Remember to include a stamped addressed envelope for me to post your tickets to you.

Many thanks
Kate Davis

From the Editor:

Please note that I have had the following sent to me but am unable to supply further information as to how to obtain tickets, times etc.

Hi, could you please ensure that the Adjutant and the whole of the NA is aware that the **Jane Austen Dancers of Bath** are holding the **Duchess of Richmond's Ball in the Assembly Rooms**, Bath, on **May 9 2015**, in the run-up to the commemorations for Waterloo 200.

Thanks

David Symington (Doglock)
27th (Enniskilling) Regiment
Godolphin's Regiment of the SK.

Bonaparte and the British:

Prints and Propaganda in the age of Napoleon

Tim Clayton and Sheila O'Connell



A richly illustrated catalogue accompanying a major British Museum exhibition to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo.

Not only was Waterloo one of the most decisive battles ever fought, was also a crucial event in European political and social history, ending over 20 years of conflict and bringing to his knees one of Europe's most extraordinary and challenging figures – Napoleon Bonaparte.

This intriguing book shows through contemporary prints how Bonaparte was seen from across the English Channel where hostile propaganda was tempered by admiration for his military and administrative talents. Featuring works from the British Museum's world-renowned collection of political satires, including examples by the greatest masters of the genre, James Gillray, Thomas Rowlandson and George Cruikshank, the authors examine in detail these fascinating and humorous prints. French satires showing the British in relation to Bonaparte are also included alongside portraits of Bonaparte and his family made for the British market. Attitudes to Bonaparte were coloured by political tensions in Britain as highlighted in satires of Charles James Fox, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Lord Holland and other radicals. French, German, Russian and Spanish copies of British prints demonstrate the wide dissemination of prints and the admiration of continental artists for British satirists.

From portraits of the handsome young general to the resplendent Emperor to the cast of his death mask, this book explores crucial events of Bonaparte's career and the period including: Nelson's triumph in the battle of the Nile in 1798; the 14 months of peace after the Treaty of Amiens in March 1802 when British tourists flocked to Paris; the invasion scare of 1803 that generated much bravado in propagandist prints; the death of Nelson at the moment of victory at Trafalgar in 1805; the Russian campaign of 1812 followed by other military defeats during 1813, culminating in Napoleon's exile to Elba in 1814; his '100 days' in power in 1815, followed by Waterloo and exile to St Helena.

Bonaparte and the British reveals the stories behind the prints, explaining how satire was used as propaganda and how the artists worked. With stunning illustrations showing the intricately detailed prints in full colour this book brings to life a key period in European history.

□ Accompanies an exhibition at the British Museum, on display 15 February - 30 August 2015 □ Features works from the world-renowned collection of satirical prints at British Museum □ Fascinating and revealing text by key experts teases out the intriguing and often humorous stories behind the satires

Authors : **Tim Clayton** is a leading authority on British prints of the period and the author of several critically acclaimed military histories. **Sheila O'Connell** is curator of British prints before 1900 at the British Museum.

NA Members will be able to get a 20% discount of the price of the exhibition book by quoting BONAPARTE2015 when ordering in the British Museum Shop or the British Museum website anytime between 5 February and 31 August